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Fall 9-1-2000

### RECM 485.01: Outdoor Recreation Planning

Stephen F. McCool

*The University of Montana-Missoula*

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RECM 485  
Outdoor Recreation Planning

*Theme:* Recreation Planning for Wicked Problems and  
Messy Situations

**Course Description:**

The course provides an overview of processes, principles and conceptual frameworks for allocating resources to recreation opportunities.

**Course Overview and Goals:**

Increasingly, planning for wildland recreation opportunities occurs in highly politicized settings. In these settings, a variety of interest groups vie and compete for allocation of scarce resources. The power to implement plans is distinct and separate from the legal mandate to plan. The course is designed to develop the conceptual background needed to participate and eventually lead recreation planning processes in an era of turbulence. This background includes understanding various paradigms of planning, the role of the public in planning processes, comprehensive and master planning principles, demand estimation and recreation resource inventory techniques.

**The Instructor:**

Dr. McCool is Professor of Wildland Recreation Management and Coordinator of the Recreation Management program here at The University of Montana. Dr. McCool's scholarly interests cover a wide variety of human-natural resource interactions, but emphasize managing recreation in protected areas, planning theory and applications, public participation, and linkages between tourism and natural resources. Dr. McCool serves on the World Commission on Protected Areas, and is a member of its Task Force on Tourism and National Parks.

## Lecture Schedule

*This is the anticipated schedule of lectures for Autumn Semester, 2000. Lecture topics and dates may change somewhat depending on progress, student capacity, and class learning objectives.*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Exams</i>
September 5	Planning Theory A. Why plans fail B. Types of planning contexts	
September 18	Planning Theory (continued) C. Different theories of planning D. An emphasis on transactive/social learning approaches	
September 19	Public Participation in Planning A. Rationale for public participation B. The who, what, and when of public participation	
September 20	Public Participation in Planning (continued) C. Dimensions of successful public participation D. Consensus building	
September 25	Planning and Conflict Management A. What is a conflict? B. Typologies of conflict C. Power, conflict and group strategies	<b>Exam</b>
September 26	Types of Recreation Planning Topics A. Comprehensive, master and site planning B. Principles (opportunity, diversity, quality, equity)	
September 27	The Limits of Acceptable Change System A. History; rationale; definition B. First two steps	
September 28	The Limits of Acceptable Change System (continued)	
October 2	A. Visitor Experience and Resource Protection Planning Process (and other processes) B. Techniques for Estimating Recreation Demand at the Comprehensive Level	<b>Exam</b>

- October 3                    Techniques for Inventorying Supply of Recreation Opportunities  
A.     Basic concepts: capability and suitability  
B.     ORRRC land classification system  
C.     ROS
- October 4                    Techniques for Inventorying Visual Resources  
Principles and Concepts for Master Planning  
A.     Demand estimation techniques
- October 5                    Principles and Concepts for Master Planning (continued)  
A.     Resource inventory considerations  
B.     Synthesis and discussion of recreation planning issues
- Exam***

## Reading Assignments

*All students are expected to complete the following reading assignments prior to the day on which they will be discussed. Discussions on readings will be the first order of business for the lecture periods. All readings are available at the Reserve Desk in the Mansfield Library. Students should review the questions that will be addressed in the discussion session by examining the newsgroup for the class.*

September 18	Brown, P.J.  Hudson, B.	Management objectives, recreation, and recreation management planning Comparison of current planning theories: Counterparts and contradictions
September 19	McCool, S.F., and J. Ashor	Politics and rivers: Creating effective citizen involvement in management decisions
September 20	Freidmann, J.  Alexander, E.R.	Toward a non-Euclidean theory of planning The non-Euclidean mode of planning: What is it to be?
September 25	Krumpe, E., and S.F. McCool  McCoy and others	The role of public involvement in the limits of acceptable change wilderness planning system The principles and processes of public involvement: A state-of-the-art synthesis for agencies venturing into ecosystem management
September 26	Mantell and others  Allen and Gould Friedmann	The limitations of science in managing park resources: Uncertainty, politics and changing values Complexity, wickedness and public forests Planning as a theoretical object <i>excerpt</i> from Planning in the Public Domain
September 27	Stankey, McCool and Stokes	The Limits of Acceptable Change Planning system

October 2      McCool S.F., and Guthrie, K.      Mapping the dimensions of success of  
public participation in natural resources  
Manning, Lime, Hof &      The Visitor Experience and Resource  
Freimund      Protection (VERP) process: The  
Application of carrying capacity to  
Arches National Park

October 3      Stankey, G.      Institutional barriers and opportunities in application of  
Limits of Acceptable Change